CLAIMS

1.   A multi-task multi-location networking system adapted to operate in combination with an internet service provider to process data requested by a remotely-located users, said system comprising:

    a)   a central data-processing subsystem having means for receiving, processing and transmitting requested data, via the internet service provider,

    b)   a remote data-processing subsystem having means for allowing the remotely located user to access the requested data which is viewed on a computer terminal, and

    c)   a software program adapted to operate said central data-processing subsystem and said remote data-processing subsystem.

2.   The system as specified in claim 1 wherein said internet service provider is Globalink Access^{SM} which is accessed by the address www.globalink.net.

3.   The system as specified in claim 2 wherein the remotely-located user is located in a hotel room wherefrom the requested data is accessed and viewed on said computer terminal.

4.   The system as specified in claim 3 wherein said central data-processing subsystem comprises:

    a)   a first local area network (LAN) having means for allowing computer terminals to share files and other elements residing in said central data-processing subsystem,

b) a plurality of workstations comprised of computer terminals that are connected to said first LAN, wherein said workstations allow an operator to connect and operate said subsystem,

c) a locker data server connected to said first LAN and which is comprised of a computer terminal which functions in combination with a locker data disk array, wherein said combination allows the locker data to be stored, accessed, and/or changed by the user,

d) a first server connected to said first LAN and having means for operating as:

(1) a central server which functions in combination with a computer terminal to provide file access for other computer terminals through said first LAN,

(2) a structured Query Language (SQL) database server which functions in combination with a computer terminal to store and administer the SQL database of said system,

(3) a combination internet information server and proxy server, wherein said servers allow both local and external users of said system to view system related web pages, and

e) an internet router that interfaces with said first server and said internet service provider, wherein said internet router connects said subsystems and routes incoming data packets to said first LAN.

5.   The system as specified in claim 3 wherein said
remote data-processing subsystem comprises:

    a) a second local area network (LAN) having
means for allowing several computer
terminals to share files and other system
elements residing in said remote
data-processing subsystem,

    b) a second server connected to said second
LAN and that interfaces with said
internet service provider, wherein said
second server has means for operating as:

    (1) a primary domain server which
functions in combination with a
computer terminal to provide
administration over said remote data
processing subsystem,

    (2) an SQL database server which
functions in combination with a
computer terminal to store and
administer the SQL database of said
remote data processing system, and

    (3) a combination internet information
server and proxy server wherein said
servers allow both local and
external users of said system to
view system related web pages, and

    c) an information receiving computer
terminal that is connected to said second
LAN, wherein said computer terminal is
designed to allow the user to select and
receive a plurality of data.

6. The system as specified in claim 5 wherein said plurality of data is comprised of:

a) rooms - provides data pertaining to services that can be accessed directly from the hotel room, such as access to the Internet, and other services provided Globalink Access^{SM},

b) front desk - provides data pertaining to future reservations, check out times, baggage help etc.,

c) room service - provides wake-up calls, food menus and ordering, laundry pick-up secretarial services, personal grooming, etc.,

d) security - provides information and administers services relating to hotel security, for example, when a hotel guest places a request for a service or to alleviate a hotel room problem, the hotel person that is to answer the request is initially identified by a photo or password which is sent electronically to the computer terminal in the guest's room. When the person arrives, the guest can view the person through a door "peep hole" or via a TV camera, to verify that the person at the door is the person identified on the computer terminal.

e) maintenance - provides services to various hotel room maintenance problems such as dripping water faucets, need for additional towels, repair of broken or inoperative items etc.

7.   The system as specified in claim 6 wherein said plurality of data is further comprised of:

a)   housekeeping - which provides services pertaining to housekeeping chores, such as cleaning, additional towels, etc.,

b)   clubs - provides information related to various clubs located in the hotel or clubs that are located in close proximity to the hotel, and

c)   administration - provides control of the entire system.

8.   A multi-task, multi-location networking system adapted to operate in combination with an internet service provider to process data requested by a remotely-located users, said system comprising:

a)   a central data-processing subsystem having means for receiving, processing and transmitting requested data via the internet service provider, said subsystem comprising:

(1)   a first local area network (LAN) having means for allowing several computer terminals to share files and other elements residing in said central data-processing subsystem,

(2)   a central server connected to said first LAN and which functions in combination with a computer terminal to provide file access for other computer terminals through said first LAN,

(3)   a Structured Query Language (SQL) database server connected to said first LAN and which functions in combination with a computer terminal to store and administer the SQL

database of said system,

(4) a plurality of workstations comprised of computer terminals that are connected to said first LAN, wherein said workstations allow the user to connect and use said central data-processing subsystem,

(5) a locker data server connected to said first LAN, and which is comprised of a computer terminal which functions in combination with a locker data disk array, wherein said combination allows the locker data information to be accessed, stored and/or changed by the user,

(6) a combination internet information server and proxy server having a first connection and a second connection, wherein the first connection is connected to said first LAN, wherein said servers allow both local and external users of said system to view system related web pages,

(7) an internet router having a first, second and third connection, wherein the first connection is connected to the second connection on said internet information server and proxy server, wherein said internet router connects said central data-processing subsystem to said internet service provider and routes incoming data packets to the first LAN,

   (8) a web server connected to the third connection on said internet router, wherein said web server allow system related web pages to be viewed, and

   (9) a news server connected to the second connection on said internet router, wherein said news server collects and disseminates current news events, weather and other newsworthy topics.

 b) a remote data-processing subsystem having means for allowing the remotely located users to access the requested data which is viewed on a computer terminal, said subsystem comprising:

   (1) a second local area network (LAN) having means for allowing several computer terminals to share files and other system files residing in said remote data processing subsystem,

   (2) a primary domain server connected to said second LAN and which functions in combination with a computer terminal to provide administration over said remote data processing subsystem,

   (3) an SQL database server connected to said second LAN and which functions in combination with a computer terminal to store and administer the SQL database of said remote data processing subsystem,

   (4) a combination internet information server and proxy server having a first connection connected to said second LAN and which also interfaces

with said internet service provider.
wherein said servers allow system
related web pages to be viewed,

(5) an information receiving station
comprised of a computer terminal
that is connected to said second
LAN, wherein said computer terminal
is designed to allow the user to
select and receive a plurality of
data, and

c) a software program adapted to operate in
combination with said central
data-processing subsystem and said remote
data-processing subsystem.

9. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein each
said workstation is comprised of a microcontroller
having at least 32 megabytes of RAM, 2 gigabytes of
hard disk capacity, a screen with graphics resolution
of at least 800 x 600 pixel and an operating system
such as UNIX.

10. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein the
remotely-located user is are located in a hotel room
wherefrom the selectable information is accessed and
viewed on said computer terminal.

11. The system as specified in claim 10 wherein
said plurality of data is comprised of:

a) rooms - provides data pertaining to
services that can be accessed directly
from the hotel room, such as access to
the Internet, and other services provided
Globalink Access^{SM},

b) front desk - provides data pertaining to
future reservations, check out times.

baggage help etc.,

c) room service - provides wake-up calls, food menus and ordering, laundry pick-up secretarial services, personal grooming, etc.,

d) security - provides information and administers services relating to hotel security, for example, when a hotel guest places a request for a service or to alleviate a hotel room problem, the hotel person that is to answer the request is initially identified by a photo or password which is sent electronically to the computer terminal in the guest's room. When the person arrives, the guest can view the person through a door "peep hole" or via a TV camera, to verify that the person at the door is the person identified on the computer terminal, and

e) maintenance - provides services to various hotel room maintenance problems such as dripping water faucets, need for additional towels, repair of broken or inoperative items etc.

12. The system as specified in claim 10 wherein said plurality of data is further comprised of:

a) housekeeping - which provides services pertaining to housekeeping chores, such as cleaning, additional towels, etc.,

b) clubs - provides information related to various clubs located in the hotel or clubs that are located in close proximity to the hotel, and

c) administration - which provides control of the entire system.

13. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said computer terminals operate on Windows NT.

14. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said first and second LANS's comprise an Ethernet network that provides communication by means of radio frequency signals carried by a coaxial cable.

15. The system as specified in claim 14 wherein said Ethernet operates on a broadband which modulates the Ethernet signal on a higher-frequency carrier to allow several signals to be carried simultaneously on a single coaxial cable.

16. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said central server, said SQL database server, said combination internet information server and proxy server, said web server, and said news server as used in said central data-processing subsystem are comprised of a single unit.

17. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said primary domain server, said SQL database server, and said internet information server and proxy server, as used in said remote data processing subsystem, are comprised of a single unit.

18. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said web server and said news server operate on a unix system.

19. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said software program is comprised of the following passive and interactive modules:

    a)   startup,

    b)   logon,

    c)   check in,

    d)   desktop,

    e)   Globalink database update,

    f)   load controls,

    g)   send messages,

    h)   receive messages,

    i)   security,

    j)   security station,

    k)   user update, and

    l)   logoff.

20. The system as specified in claim 8 wherein said software is further comprised of the following optional modules:

    a)   alarm clock,

    b)   clubs,

    c)   computer monitor,

    d)   kitchen

    e)   questionnaire,

    f)   room service,

    g)   banner

    h)   file mover, and

    i)   locker access.